

state of utah

file in Brush Wellman



DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

DONALD A. SMITH
Director

1596 West North Temple/Salt Lake City, Utah 84116/801-533-9333

April 11, 1977

Mr. Brian W. Buck
Engineering Geologist
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
1588 West North Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

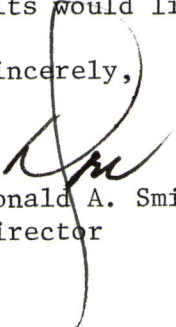
Dear Mr. Buck:

Personnel from our Division went to Topaz Mountain and investigated the request from the State Division of Oil, Gas and Mining concerning a proposed open pit mining operation in section 16 of Township 13 South, Range 12 West and section 32 of Township 12 South, Range 12 West by Brush Wellman Inc.

The areas requested for additional open pits are in the same general area as the present Beryllium open pit mining activities. The additional areas will not create a significant impact on the wildlife species in the area.

The areas are presently occupied by small desert mammals, song birds, reptiles, birds of prey, coyotes, chukars and occasionally antelope. Mourning doves are found seasonally within the area. Although a small amount of natural habitat for the above species will be eliminated, it is our feeling that it will not be too serious. The above listed species presently occupy the area being mined at this time. Rain water which is trapped and held in the pits created by present mining activities is being utilized by most of the listed wildlife species, particularly chukars, mourning doves, song birds, small mammals and occasionally antelope. It is our feeling that creating additional available water for the species in the area through rainwater catchment in the new pits would likely offset impacts created by habitat disturbance.

Sincerely,


Donald A. Smith
Director

GOVERNOR
Scott M. Matheson

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Exec. Director

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